



Our Virtue to Live by: Simplicity

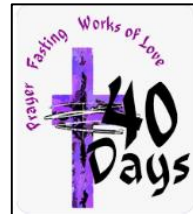
"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21)



As the Season of Lent Approaches

It only seems two minutes since the season of Advent and now we are about to begin our journey through the season of Lent.

Ash Wednesday occurs during the half-term. Please try to attend Mass with your child/ren on this Holy day of Obligation. During Lent we try to be more like Jesus – by praying more, giving to others more and going without. We will be sending home the Mission Together Lenten Calendar with each child on Friday. Make sure you display it at home and try to encourage your child (or better still the whole family) to engage with the daily activities.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to the Y6 children who recently made their Confirmation. It was a lovely evening with Bishop Marcus presided over the ceremony. We wish you all well as you go forth having completed the process of initiation into the Church. You did your families and the Parish proud!



Invitation to prepare for First Holy Communion

A letter will soon be sent home to the Y4 children who have made their First Confession inviting them to begin preparing for First Holy Communion. Any children in Y5 and Y6 who this applies to can also join. The date for the Sacrament has not yet been set by the Parish.

Parish News

Please see the Parish Website regarding Mass times and the latest bulletin. Canon Eugene looks forward to seeing all the children at Mass each weekend.
<https://www.stpatrickschurchleeds.org.uk/>

Key dates going forward

February

- 5th-9th Looking After Myself focus week in school
- 5th-7th – Y6 Residential to Robinwood
- 6th - Y3 visit Leeds City Museum – History topic of Egyptians
- 8th Inner-East Pupil Summit Civic Hall – Group of KS2 pupils attending
- 8th FOSP Family Movie Night – Ticket only event
- 9th Y6 Robinwood Assembly 2.15pm – Y6 parents welcome
- 9th – Break for half-term
- 14th – Ash Wednesday – Lent begins

Monday 19th - School Closed – Training Day

- 20th – School re-opens to pupils
- 21st – Y6 visit to Sikh temple
- 23rd – Y5/Y6 Sportshall Athletic final
- 27th & 29th Y1 Phonics Meeting

March

- 6th & 7th Parent's Evenings



Safeguarding /Health and Safety Information

Domestic Violence Support - Please click on this link if you are experiencing domestic violence and need help or support - <https://ldvs.uk/>

Mental Health Support (adults and children) - <https://www.mindwell-leeds.org.uk/>

Applying for Benefits and Financial support - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/benefits>

Keeping you and your family safe online - <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Website – See the website for latest school policies including the Child Protection policy 23-24 and Online Safety Policy 23-24.

Please ensure that you keep your 2 emergency contacts up to date and that you are contactable throughout the school day should your child become unwell.

School Playground – IMPORTANT MESSAGE

I have spoken about this previously and following an incident this week I feel I must go back over these very important points. Parents/carers you must stay with your child/ren until the bell has rung and they are lined up ready to enter school at 8.40am. You must make sure you know where your child/ren is at all times. Our school is next to a very busy road! The same applies at hometime – make sure you keep control of your child/ren and remain vigilant when leaving the site and if you are crossing the road.

Looking After Myself Week – 5th-9th February

We have had lots of new and different learning opportunities delivered this week. We have had visitors joining us from different sectors and Mount St Mary's staff and pupils have led sessions too. Y6 have had an amazing time on residential, pushing themselves to take on new challenges. Tomorrow, I am taking some school council members to the Inner-East Youth summit at the Civic Hall. Make sure you look us up /follow us on Twitter to keep up to date on all things health week.

<https://twitter.com/StPatricksLeeds>

Online Safety Support

Please check under the parent tab on the website or [click here](#) and it will take you all the current resources. Alerts will be sent out when new information is uploaded to this area of the website.

Programme of building works

We are finally nearing the completion of the building works. The governors and I are delighted with the first- class built environment we have managed to develop so far. The Boys and Reception toilets are set to be refurbished in February and new display boards will be installed in half-term and then we have plans to furnish the new library, decorate the hall and develop the playground in the spring. A big thank you to all those parents who have contributed to the VCS building fund this year. We will be making another request at the start of next year if you were unable to contribute this year. All the money raised goes to helping maintain the building and the valuable resources needed for teaching and learning.

Whole School Priorities

Reading

If pupils cannot read, they will not be able to access the curriculum, and will be disadvantaged for life. Education inspection framework: January 2019

Book exchanges – The book exchanges are open for business. Remember you can bring in any good quality book from home and exchange it for a new book in the main entrance and for our younger readers, outside Reception class. There are some great titles and there is something for everyone.

Borrow Box – This is a great way to loan ebooks and audiobooks from the library service and it's FREE for both children and adults!

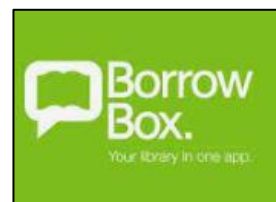
For more information follow this link <https://www.borrowbox.com/>

Phonics Meeting for Y1 parents

It is important that all Y1 parents attend one of the following meetings. We will be discussing how your child learns to read and the forthcoming Y1 National Phonic Screener in June. The meetings will be in the hall

Tuesday 27th February 3pm

Thursday 29th February 8.30am



Family Learning opportunity – Resumes after Easter

The focus for the weekly sessions in the summer term will be on helping parents support their child's learning. The sessions will be more interactive and will involve creating resources to help your child. A flyer will come home shortly. Please sign up if you can.



Key skills practice and website support

Keep practicing those key skills of Reading, Spelling and Maths each day at home. Your child's class curriculum was shared in September but can also found on the website <https://www.stpatricksleeds.org.uk> under the Parent tab then Classes. A spring 2024 newsletter will shortly be uploaded on the website for every class. The website has links to different websites to support learning in all subjects and your child has passwords to access key resources such as TTRS. Remember to click on the globe in the top left-hand corner to explore the range of languages that the website can be translated into.

FOSP – Family Movie Night – Encanto

This event tomorrow is now sold out. We are very much looking forward to welcoming family's tomorrow evening. Doors will open at 4.30pm and our popcorn stand will open then too. You are more than welcome to bring your own snacks. Please ensure you are in the hall for no later than 4.55pm as the film will begin at 5pm prompt. We are allowing for a short break in the middle and it will conclude at 7.15pm. If you would like to watch the film in the Y1 classroom then please be aware this will have a more relaxed feel for children who may struggle to sit for the whole duration of a film.



RSHE (Relationship, Sex and Health Education)

All 7 classes will this be taught RSHE this term. The RSHE curriculum is well embedded here at St.Patrick's and we feel confident that our pupils begin high school with all the knowledge they need in this area and the results of our annual pupil surveys tell us so. The focus of RSHE in primary schools is on the fundamental building blocks of positive relationships with a particular emphasis on friendships, family relationships as well as other types of relationships with other children and adults. Please click on the link to our website to view parental letters regarding RSHE and links to the resources that each class will be using during their studies.

<https://www.stpatricksleeds.org.uk/curriculum-rshe>

And finally...

We have had a great 'Keeping Myself Safe' week in school. Make sure you ask your child about their learning. We have covered physical and emotional wellbeing and also how to keep safe online. Mrs Webster worked incredibly hard to create a timetable of different visitors for the children and they have loved it! Huge thanks to MSM for sending their amazing young people down to lead PE, Music and Art activities – they really are a credit to the school and their families. I wish you all a lovely half-term with your family. Over the next few days, I will push out information on the app that I have received about activities that are going on around the city next week.

Reminder school re-opens Tuesday 20th February

Take care,
Mrs Grady